

Town of Westford

Representative Town Government Meeting Study Committee



*Westford 2000
A Peaceable Community*

Date: Tuesday, October 30, 2007

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Millennium, Room 11

Attendees: John Cunningham (Member), Buffie Diercks (Member),
Marianne Fleckner (Alternate Member), George Murray (Chair),
Robert Phillips (Secretary), Bob Price (Member), Valerie Wormell (Ex officio),

Minutes

The minutes of October 2, 2007 were approved by a motion from Price, seconded by Phillips. Cunningham (who was absent for that meeting) abstained.

Discussion of Recent Town Meeting

The committee had an informal discussion of the Oct. 22 town meeting as it relates to the committee's charge.

Walter Neider Unavailable

The committee had planned to meet with Mr. Walter Neider, who was instrumental in pressing for the committee. Murray said he would be unavailable for health reasons.

Presentation by Buffie Diercks

Ms. Diercks presented information from her recent attempt to move the annual town meeting from Saturday to a week night. This was an effort to boost town meeting attendance. More than three quarters of nearby towns hold their annual town meetings on a week night. There followed an informal discussion of that and other ways in which town meeting attendance might be increased and the entire town meeting process improved.

Murray asked members to email him the salient points made in the discussion, which he will compile. He also suggested inviting Mr. Dave Murray, the Finance Committee chair to a future meeting.

Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday January 8, 2008

The committee agreed to meet at this date. Price to arrange for Denise Baker or some other MMA representative to address the committee. Likewise Murray to ask Dave Murray to attend.

Next meeting

Tuesday, December 4, 2007, 7 to 9 PM, Millennium Room 11

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM by a motion from Cunningham, seconded by Price.

Respectfully Submitted by: R. Phillips (draft - October 31, 2007, approved January 9, 2008)